

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: PAID FAMILY LEAVE PROGRAM

The Employment Development Department (EDD) is beginning the first phase of marketing the Paid Family Leave (PFL) program. PFL will provide Disability Insurance benefits to workers to care for a seriously ill family member or to bond with a new child. At the end of October 2003, more than 800,000 employers will receive posters, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and informational brochures to share with employees about the PFL program. It is anticipated that the mailing will generate questions from employers and workers, who may contact local area One-Stop Career Centers and staff for additional information.

The following will provide you with basic PFL information and identify PFL resources to help staff respond to PFL questions.

- The PFL is unemployment compensation disability insurance paid to workers who suffer a wage loss when they take time off to care for a seriously ill family member or bond with a new child.
- Workers may receive up to six weeks of benefits that may be paid over a 12-month period.
- Payroll deductions are mandatory. Beginning January 1, 2004, employers are required to deduct the PFL contributions from the wages of employees who are covered by the State Disability Insurance (SDI) program.
- The PFL program is fully funded by employees' contribution, similar to SDI.
- Benefits will be payable for PFL claims on or after July 1, 2004.

More information about the PFL program can be obtained by accessing the EDD Web site at www.edd.ca.gov. Click on the PFL link in the center of the home page. The PFL link provides a PFL fact sheet, FAQs, and informational materials.

Refer clients to the Disability Insurance Program for additional information at 1-877-BE-THERE (238-4373).

If you have any questions, please contact Ed Giacomelli at egiacome@edd.ca.gov or (916) 654-2985.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
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